

Proposed 2004 Community Council Action Items

Action Items

Title: Community IT Development (CC 1)

Description: Support community IT development by working with the University of Nebraska and other Technologies Across Nebraska Partners, including the following action steps:

- **Pending the availability of funding, work with 8 community or regional technology committees to develop community or regional IT plans through the 2004-2005 Community IT Planning and Mini Grant program.**
- Provide continuing support for the 17 community and regional technology committees which have participated the IT Planning and Mini Grant pilot program.
- **Work with the Nebraska Rural Initiative and the Nebraska Rural Development Commission on efforts to promote and coordinate e-commerce training across the state.**
- Continue partnering with Technologies Across Nebraska and the University of Nebraska to promote technology-related development through the quarterly newsletter, TANgents.
- Continue to maintain and update the TAN and Community IT Toolkit Web sites, including adding funding information.
- Work with the Nebraska Rural Initiative to explore the expanded use of youth to assist in IT development activities.
- Provide and/or promote training opportunities on effectively using technology to enhance development opportunities and the delivery of services, especially in the area of IT-related economic development.

Lead: Technologies Across Nebraska and Community Council

Timeframe: June, 2004- May, 2005

Expected Outcomes:

- Communities in Nebraska will make progress toward becoming Information Age communities;
- Communities will have easy access to information and resources to assist them in developing their capacity to use information technology for community and economic development.

Title: Telehealth Network Development (CC 2)

Description: Support the development of a statewide telehealth network in the following ways:

1. The NITC and the Telehealth Subcommittee should facilitate communication and coordination among telehealth networks.
2. The Telehealth Subcommittee and NITC staff should provide continuing assistance to the Nebraska Hospital Association in developing a telehealth plan for the Nebraska Public Service Commission.
3. The NITC Technical Panel should address the need for interoperability.

Lead: Telehealth Subcommittee and NITC

Timeframe: June, 2004 - May, 2005

Expected Outcomes:

- Telehealth systems in Nebraska will be interconnected.
- The number of critical access and rural hospitals participating in telehealth systems will increase—especially in the second year of implementation of the system.
- The number of telehealth consultations in the state will increase.
- Health care providers will have better access to continuing medical education.
- Specialist services, especially mental health services and teleradiology, in rural areas will be more accessible.